

The Senate then adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Senate Chamber, Tuesday, November 10, 1863
10 o'clock A. M.

Senate met, prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Cooley, Senator elect for the 31st Senatorial District, came forward, took the oath of office and his seat.

Mr. Guinn, Chairman of the Committee on Claims and Accounts, reported the bill for relief of George E. Burney and recommended its passage.¹³ Also a substitute for a bill for relief of A. J. Vaughn of Lamar County.

Mr. White from the Committee on State Affairs made the following reports: "The Committee on State Affairs to whom was referred a bill appropriating \$500,000 for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers etc. have had the same under consideration and are of opinion that the first section of said bill should pass, amended by adding after the word "Dollars" the words "in Confederate notes."

Your Committee are of opinion that the 2nd Section should be amended as to provide that the amount appropriated should be raised by other means than the issue of Treasury Warrants which it considers unconstitutional and impolitic because the while it augments a debt already immense to be paid in gold and silver its value is merely nominal—a debt to be paid by the labor of a people now oppressed with heavy burdens. It is also impolitic because it adds to a currency already redundant thereby depreciating its own value and that of the Confederate notes. It is unconstitutional being a violation of the 8th Section, 7th Article, of the Constitution.

The Committee believe that the sum of \$500,000 in Confederate notes may be raised by the sale of the bonds

¹³This bill read as follows:

A Bill

For the relief of George E. Burney

Sec. 1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas that the sum of Six hundred dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to reimburse George E. Burney for actual expenses incurred by him in going to the State of Mississippi by order of the Governor to demand the delivery of Geo. B. Payne, William Payne, Hezekiah Payne and Jno. T. Berry, fugitives from justice charged with forging and issuing Counterfeit Confederate Treasury Notes.

Sec. 2 That this act take effect from its passage.

of the state bearing interest at from 6 to 8 per cent based alone upon the credit of the state. These bonds with proper management would probably sell in the market for Confederate money at a price ranging from three to six hundred per cent realizing the sum asked for in the bill by liabilities of the state in a sum less than two hundred thousand dollars at the same time obviating the evil of increasing the redundant currency. With this view of the subject your Committee have drawn a substitute and recommend its passage."

"This Committee have had under consideration a bill to prohibit Sabbath breaking and a majority have instructed me to report the same back to the Senate without amendment and recommend its serious consideration. In making this report the Committee are not satisfied that the provisions of the bill are unexceptionable but would call the attention of the Senate to the propriety of some such measure."

Mr. Lea introduced the following which was adopted: "**Resolved** that the Committee on Finance inquire and report concerning the necessity and propriety of adopting a system of taxation which shall be equal and uniform throughout the state on all property in proportion to its value according to the Constitution with its exceptions; and whether the system should provide for taxing respectively in their kinds the articles of specie, bank notes, Treasury Warrants of this state and Treasury notes of the Confederate States of America; and whether the system should further provide for assessing the value of all other kinds of property in such Confederate paper currency as shall be receivable for the ordinary taxes."

Mr. Ford offered the following: "**Resolved** that the Committee on Finance be required to inquire into the necessity of authorizing the County Courts of the several counties to levy and collect a produce tax in kind for the support of such indigent persons as are or may be supported in whole or in part by the country and report by bill or otherwise." Adopted.

Mr. Harcourt introduced a bill to further regulate proceedings in the Supreme Court. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Guinn introduced a bill to amend the 11th and 13th sections of an act to organize County Courts. Read

1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Maxey introduced a bill for the relief of Robert Price. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Moore of Davis introduced a bill to amend the 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of an act to punish persons who evade or assist in evading the conscript laws. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

A bill to amend the 4th Section of an act relating to the descent and distribution of estates with report of Judiciary Committee recommending that it do not pass. Read 2nd time and reported adopted.

The report of Judiciary Committee on the resolution relative to stopping interest on debts where Confederate money is tendered in payment was adopted as the sense of the Senate on the question.

A bill to regulate continuances in civil and criminal suits with report of Judiciary Committee recommending a substitute. Read 2nd time and the substitute adopted.

Mr. Harcourt offered the following amendment: "Section 2, That during the present war civil causes pending in the District Courts may be continued without prejudice upon suggestion that the parties or their witness are absent in the military service." Adopted.

Mr. Parsons offered the following amendment: "After the word 'Material' insert 'and that he knows of no other witness by whom he can prove the same facts'."

On Mr. Lea's motion the further consideration of the subject was postponed until tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock.

The Senate then adjourned until 10 o'clock A. M. tomorrow.

Senate Chamber, Wednesday,
November 11, 1863

10 o'clock A. M.

Senate met, prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Harcourt, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, on their behalf reported the bill to further regulate proceedings in the Supreme Court and recommended its passage. The following report was also present: "The Judi-